

REMARKS

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the subject application. The Non-Final Office Action of March 29, 2004 has been received and its contents carefully reviewed.

Applicants hereby amend claims 1-3 and 8. Claims 1-12 remain pending.

In the Non-Final Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-12 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Kim (U.S. Patent No. 6,580,473) in view of Song et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,886,757.) The rejections of these claims are traversed and reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

The rejection of claims 1-12 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kim in view of Song is traversed and reconsideration is respectfully requested. Independent claims 1, 3, and 8 are allowable over Kim in view of Song in that claim 1 recites a combination of elements including, for example, “a pixel electrode of the pixel region is formed over predetermined portions of the drain electrode and the pixel region and wherein the pixel electrode directly contacts the insulating substrate”, claim 3 recites a combination of elements including, for example, “a pixel electrode formed in the pixel region for connecting the pixel electrode to the drain electrode through the contact hole, wherein the pixel electrode directly contacts the substrate,” and claim 17 recites a combination of elements including, for example, “forming a pixel electrode in the pixel region connected to the drain electrode through the contact hole, wherein the pixel electrode directly contacts the substrate.” Neither Kim or Song, singly or in combination, teach at least these features of the present invention. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1, 3, and 8 and claims 2, 4-7, and 9-12, which depend from claims 1, 3, and 8 respectively, are also allowable over Kim in view of Song.

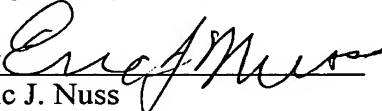
In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue. If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney

at (202) 496-7500 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Dated: August 25, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

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